St Edmund's Church Taverham

Reflection with Compline Service on Thursday 14th March 2024 at 7pm

Welcome

Reading and meditation.

A time of silence for reflection and prayer.

Approach

The angels of God guard us through the night, and quieten the powers of darkness.

The Spirit of God be our guide to lead us to peace and to glory.

It is but lost labour that we haste to rise up early, and so late take rest, and eat the bread of anxiety. For those beloved of God are given gifts even while they sleep.

Silence

My brothers and sisters, our help is in the name of the eternal God, who is making the heavens and the earth.

Dear God.

Thank you for all that is good, for our creation and for our humanity, for the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth, for the gifts of life and of one another, for <u>your love</u> which is unbounded and eternal.

O thou, most holy and beloved, my Companion, my Guide upon the way, my bright evening star.

We repent the wrongs we have done.

Silence

We have wounded your love. **O God, heal us.**

We stumble in the darkness.

Light of the world transfigure us.

We forget that we are <u>your</u> home. **Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

Eternal Spirit, living God, in whom we live and move and have our being, all that we are, have been, and shall be is known to you, to the very secret of our hearts and all that rises to trouble us. Living flame burn into us, cleansing wind, blow through us, fountain of water, well up within us, that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.

Invocation

Let us worship the God of love. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Psalm 27 verses 1,4,5,7,8 Let us say together

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

- 4 One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.
- 5 For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.
- 7 Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!
- 8 'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your face, Lord, do I seek.

Let us pray

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.

Keep me, O God, as the apple of an eye; hide me under the shadow of your wings.

ORDINARY DAYS

Preserve us, O God, while waking, and guard us while sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep may rest in your peace.

Amen.

Let us say the Prayer our Lord taught us

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The minister and people pray responsively.

I will lie down in peace and take my rest, for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.

Let us bless the Earth-maker, the Pain-bearer, the Lifegiver, let us praise and exalt God above all for ever.

May God's name be praised beyond the furthest star, glorified and exalted above all for ever.

Be present, Spirit of God, within us, your dwelling place and home, that this house may be one where all darkness is penetrated by your light, all troubles calmed by your peace, all evil redeemed by your love, all pain transformed in your suffering, and all dying glorified in your risen life. Amen.

God our Creator, our centre, our friend, we thank you for our good life, for those who are dear to us, for our dead, and for all who have helped and influenced us.

We thank you for the measure of freedom we have, we thank you for the <u>faith</u> that is in us, for our <u>awareness</u> of you and our hope in you.

Keep us, we pray you, thankful and hopeful and useful until our lives shall end. Amen.

Lord, it is night.

The night is for stillness. Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.
What has been done has been done;
what has not been done has not been done;
let it be.

The night is dark.

Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives rest in you.

The night is quiet.

Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us, and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.

Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys, new possibilities.

In your name we pray.

Amen.

Sentence of the Day

THURSDAY

Christ be within us to keep us, beside us to guard, before us to lead, behind us to protect, beneath us to support, above us to bless.

Final Versicle

The service concludes.

The divine Spirit dwells in us.

Thanks be to God.

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